

plucking up a thistle root; and all this for to satisfy the caprice of ditti who are eager to the spoils. Who is to the ravages of the Mah- er Tippoo shall be ex- This is a question requires at least a serious , which it seems not have obtained, either in in Britain.

of a letter from Ban- , Sept. 19. 1791.

will perceive by the courier, that though decisive has been done capture of Bangalore, Tippoo is now nearly ed; the loss of that ed him, and our getting u of it may be looked one of those fortunate ances which decide the n empire. I say for- for we had no right to ; and, in all probabili- oo would then have re- to the lowest ebb. The large oval, with thick parts, and a very deep ditch around, except two extremities, where -ways are. At each re are five gate-ways, in a large square pro- with towers, ramparts, ich was thought by o be very strong; here was discontinued. We a long time breached the curtains, but found

that there was a deep ditch in front, that would have probably baffled our attempts to get in. On learning that there was no ditch at the gate-ways, the guns were turned against them, and very great destruction done in a short time. It became however necessary to take it or abandon it immediately; there was not above one day's ammunition remaining, and Tippoo had cut embrazures through the bank of a tank, that would have flanked our batteries, and obliged us to storm them next morning, though protected by the guns of the fort, which kept up a tremendous, though ill directed fire. The enemy had expected a storm for two nights before, and had been on the watch; but being fatigued, they were surprised on the third. There were only two possible ways to get in, both of which might have been easily defended, the tops of the two retaining walls of the square inclosure that communicated with the ramparts, upon which we got up by the slope occasioned by the destruction of the walls.

The storming party, when they ascended the gate-way, contrary to what was intended, gave a huzza, which convinced the garrison that they were near at hand, though they were by no means in possession of the place. The garrison was immediately panic struck, and,

instead of doing any thing effectual, they began firing all the guns of the fort, in every direction, to drown their fears. There were near fifteen hundred killed that night, and about fifty every night of the siege.

Lord Cornwallis was exceedingly anxious all the time; he knew, if we failed, that we must have decamped, and left every thing on the ground, as most of the cattle were dead, and the remainder so debilitated as to be nearly useless.

I have given you this hasty detail as the newspaper in India seldom contains any but the most flattering accounts. The particulars since Bangalore you will find correct enough in the courier. Our situation at Seringapatam was also critical; and, if the Mahrattas had not very unexpectedly joined us with great supplies, the army would have been very much distressed, we could always however have got back to Bangalore. Tippoo now is at the lowest ebb;—no avenues, and little territory not over-run by the Mahrattas, and his troops now obliged to desert him from want. He is said to be an impatient, self-conceited man, very mistrustful of all around him, and seldom inclined to take advice; cruel to a degree against his enemies, or those who oppose his will, but a mil master to the bulk, *i. e.* th